**Laudation Prof. Dr. István Bocskay**

Prof. Dr. István Bocskay is a former Dean of the University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Targu-Mures, in Romania and former Head of the Department of Conservative Dentistry and Parodontology.

He graduated from the Faculty of Dentistry at the University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Cluj-Napoca in 1954 and received his Doctor of Science degree in 1967. He was invited to teach as an assistant lecturer at the University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Targu-Mures in 1960, where he became full professor in 1978. He was appointed as the Head of the Department of Conservative Dentistry and Parodontology in 1973, a position he held until his retirement in 1999. He is still teaching as Professor Emeritus.

Professor Bocskay was Dean of the Faculty of Dentistry at the University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Targu-Mures between 1972 and 1973, 1984 and 1986 and 1989 and 1990, and Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Medicine between 1986 and 1989.

Professor Bocskay is the most prominent leader of the University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Targu-Mures’s Dentistry Program. He has been teaching dental, medical and Ph.D. students in Hungarian and Romanian for more than 50 years. He has fought persistently and effectively to keep the Hungarian language Dentistry Program at the University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Targu-Mures.

Professor Bocskay gained international recognition with his pioneering research in oral pathohistology and microbiology. He is a member of several professional organizations including honorary membership in the Hungarian Dental Association. He received the Pápai Páriz Ferenc award, and the Romanian State award, Profesor de Onoare as recognition for his life work.

Professor Bocskay’s professional relationship with Semmelweis University started more than 40 years ago. Due to his strenuous work there was a rapid development in this cooperation after 1990 and now there is a flourishing exchange program for Faculty members, and dental and Ph.D. students of the two universities.